[16th December 1954

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) As the licensee for the area (the South Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Limited) expressed inability to take up the extension for supply of electricity to Perambalur the Government Electricity department enquired from the licensee whether he was willing to surrender a portion of his area of supply, including Udayarpalayam and Perambalur taluks in Tiruchirappalli district to the department. The licensee has agreed to surrender those taluks and this proposal is under consideration. If the proposal is approved, a scheme for supply to Perambalur town will be evolved by the Government Electricity department.

The residents of Perambalur town have been informed of the position."

Hospitals without X-ray facilities.

* 376 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to supplementary questions to question No. 649 on 11th May 1954, in how many taluk headquarters hospitals diagnostic X-ray facilities are now not available?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sixty-nine."

Provision of protected water-supply and electricity for slums in the City.

* 377 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether the slums in the City of Madras are provided with facilities of protected water-supply and electricity?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" According to the latest survey there are 295 slums in the City of Madras. Of these, 190 slums are provided with protected water-supply facility inside the slums and 65 slums have got public taps on the main roads on which the slums abut and from these taps the slum dwellers draw protected water. One hundred and fifty-eight slums have been provided with electric lights."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" In view of the fact that the slum clearance programme is progressing only very slowly, will the Government see that at least in the meanwhile, these elementary amenities are provided to the slum-dwellers? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Commissioner will be taking steps to extend protected water-supply to those areas when the distribution system is extended and a well or a tube-well will be sunk wherever practicable."

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—" Do the figures given by the Hon. Minister include the cases of concentrated pavement-dwellers in the City? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" This refers only to slums."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" A wrong notion has gained currency. Is it not a fact that it is only slum improvement and not slum clearance? Is it not a fact that in Kodambakkam there are more than 10 slums and that not more than 2 slums are provided with protected water-supply? What arrangements have the Corporation made to provide the rest of the City with protected water-supply? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It is only slum improvement and not slum clearance. That is the policy now."

Disciplinary action against teachers in Harijan schools in South Arcot district.

* 378 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many teachers working in the Harijan schools were punished in South Arcot district during the year 1952-53;

(*b*) how many hostel managers were fined for irregularities and the amount of fine collected; and

(*c*) how many teachers were suspended by the Welfare officers?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) Nine teachers were punished.

" (*b*) None was fined.

" (*c*) One teacher was placed under suspension. The period of suspension was subsequently treated as on duty as he was acquitted of the offences for which he was kept under suspension."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" அந்த அதிகாரியைப்பற்றி எத்தனை உபாத்தியாயர்களிடமிருந்து, எத்தனை கண்டிராக்டர்களிடமிருந்து, தென்னாற்காடு மாவட்டத்தைச் சேர்ந்த எத்தனை சட்டசபை உறுப்பினர்களிடமிருந்து புகார்கள் வந்தன ? அதன் காரணமாக அந்த அதிகாரி மாற்றப்பட்டிருக்கிறாரா ? மாற்றப்பட்டிருந்தால் இந்த உத்தியோகத்தைவிட உயர்ந்த உத்தியோகத்திற்கு மாற்றப்பட்டிருக்கிறாரா ? அல்லது தாழ்ந்த உத்தியோகத்திற்கு மாற்றப்பட்டிருக்கிறாரா என்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்வாரா ? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I do not propose to answer such vague questions."

Cross-words puzzle competitions.

* 379 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have figures to show the number of cross-words puzzle competitions conducted in the State?